

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 SS-20 INR-10 RSC-01 DRC-01 SPC-03

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R 041700Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9672

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0028

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ZA, US

SUBJECT: MARSHALL SOGHOIAN CASE

REF: STATE 641

1. PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR MARK CHONA RAISED SUBJECT WITH AMBASSADOR AT JAN 4 DISCUSSION OTHER TOPICS IN GENERAL TERMS IN CONTEXT OF BILATERAL PROBLEMS IN NEED OF SOLUTION FOR IMPROVED GRZ-US RELATIONS. CALLED AMBASSADOR BACK TO STATE HOUSE IN LATE AFTERNOON TO SAY HAD SPENT DAY CAREFULLY DOUBLE CHECKING FBI INVENTORY OF ITEMS SEIZED AT TIME OF SOGHOIAN ARREST AGAINST GRZ AUTHORIZATIONS AND PAYMENTS.

2. ZAMBIANS NOW "FULLY SATISFIED" TWO ELECTRONIC LISTENING DEVICES IN SOGHOIAN'S POSSESSION ARE PROPERTY OF GRZ AND ATTESTATION TO THIS EFFECT WILL BE CABLED TO WASHINGTON FOR DELIVERY TO DEPT MONDAY, JAN 7.

CHONA EXPLAINED GRZ REVIEW OF ITS RECORDS MOST PAINSTAKING SO AS CLEARLY ESTABLISH GRZ OWNERSHIP AND ELIMINATE ANY SUSPICION GRZ "PROTECTING ANYONE WHO MIGHT BE A CRIMINAL." SAID GRZ HAD TO ASSURE ITSELF ITEMS INDEED THEIRS AND THAT SOGHOIAN NOT "WORKING
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FOR SOMEONE ELSE WHOSE INTERESTS MIGHT BE INIMICABLE TO

US."

3. CHONA DESCRIBED DEVICES AS FOLLOWS: A) MIECO DEVICE PURCHASED BY GRZ IN 1971 AND RETURNED TO TUS FOR REPAIR BY GRZ OFFICIAL WHO TURNED IT OVER TO SOGHOIAN FOR HANDLING. CHONA SAID GRZ RESPONSIBLE FOR SOGHOIAN'S POSSESSION OF DEVICE , NOT RPT NOT SOGHOIAN; B) TOM BLAZECK DEVICE FOR WHICH GRZ MADE DOWN PAYMENT IN JUNE 1972 AND FOR USE OF ZAMBIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. SOGHOIAN HAD BEEN BROUGHT IN ON THIS DEVICE MERELY IN CAPACITY OF ADVISOR. DEVICE NOT YET FULLY PAID FOR.

4. CHONA TERMINATED CONVERSATION BY SAYING "WHATEVER MISTAKES WE MAY HAVE MADE ON THIS CASE. WE WANT USG TO KNOW WE ARE SINCERE ("GENUINE"). NOTEWORTHY CHONA LINKED THIS CASE TO CROTHERS CASE AS TWO PROBLEMS IN WAY OF BETTER GRZ-US RELATIONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, ARRESTS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LUSAKA00028
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740162/aaaacgmm.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: STATE 641
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARSHALL SOGHOIAN CASE
TAGS: PFOR, ZA, US, (SOGHOIAN, MARSHALL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005